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CITY NEWS

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Volume 13, Number 4

Serving New Jersey's African-American Communities Since 1983

November 6 - November 12, 1996

INSIDE:

JUDICIARY NOMINATIONS OF FOUR PRESIDENTS

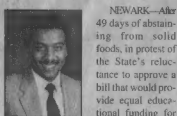
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OBSCURING THE TRUTH ABOUT THE CIA/CRACK SCHEME

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LAWRENCE HAMM ENDS PROTEST FAST

by Ron Holland



Hamm

NEWARK—After 49 days of abstaining from solid foods in protest of the State's reluctance to approve a bill that would provide equal funding for special needs districts, Larry Hamm announced last Thursday that he would end his fast. "I was disappointed that I had to end the fast," Hamm said in a telephone interview.

"I had hoped to continue but my health would not let me," Hamm's fast was designed to prompt the state to implement the "Fair Education Act," supported by Irvington Assemblyman Craig Stanley. The Act, which would fulfill the requirements of the Abbott v. Burke court decision, would ensure that poorer districts that are not funding education at the same level as wealthy districts, would receive additional support from the state.

"I want to take this opportunity to advise House Speaker James McGreevey on behalf of young people," said Stanley. "There is perhaps no stronger statement that one can make than to fast for a worthy cause."

Benefits of the bill would provide for funding supplemental programs and services to meet special educational needs of pupils in special needs districts for the 1997-98 school year. Hamm said that additional efforts will be implemented to convince the state to follow the Abbott v. Burke decision.

FOURTOWNS GET \$6 MILLION FOR WATER IMPROVEMENTS

STATEWIDE—Four municipal state-wide—Newark, Aberdeen Township, Franklin Borough and Highland Park Borough—have been awarded a total of \$6 million in low-interest loans to improve their drinking water systems.

"According to Governor Whitman, the projects will improve water quality and enhance water conservation by creating more efficient water supply systems. 'These are valuable investments in our infrastructure that have long-term benefits resulting in cleaner water,'" Whitman added.

The state Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) administers the Water Supply Fund, a revolving, low-interest loan program created by the Water Supply Bond Act of 1981 for the rehabilitation of publicly-owned facilities.

Newark was awarded a \$3 million loan for the cleaning and cement lining of a water pipeline running from West Paterson to Bloomfield. Aberdeen Township (Monmouth County) will receive \$1 million in two loans for the construction of water lines and the replacement of water mains and meters.

Franklin Borough (Sussex County) was awarded a \$1 million loan for the cleaning and cement lining of water mains and the installation of pipe extensions.

East Orange youth register over 1,000 voters

Pickett takes courtroom savvy to the airwaves

by Myra A. Thomas

NEW JERSEY—To say Bob Pickett is an overachiever would probably be an understatement. Whether serving as an accomplished lawyer, former judge, KISS FM radio commentator, writer, advocate, or family man, Pickett can best be described as a jack-of-all-trades. An eloquent and affable man, most may only identify Pickett from his more high-profile position as the weekly KISS-FM radio commentator on the very popular public affairs program, OPENLINE.

Raised in Newark and educated in the public schools, Pickett is a home-grown product through and through. Driven from an early age, he notes that



Bob Pickett

he had an early objective to become a lawyer. He received his law degree in 1972 from the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor. With his law degree in hand, Pickett was highly recruited by a number of firms in New York, New

Jersey, Cleveland, and Washington, DC.

With New Jersey beckoning him home, the rookie lawyer accepted an offer from the well-known Law Firm of

SEE PICKETT/page B-3

Newark educators suspended for alleged fraud

by Ron L. Holland

NEWARK—In an effort to depart from a beleaguered reputation of corruption and mismanagement, the State District Superintendent's office has suspended 25 district employees who were allegedly involved in an insurance kickback referral scheme that provided them upward of \$300,000 in illegal profits.

The division of Criminal Justice in the Office of the Attorney General, conducted the investigation that uncovered a Ridgewood psychologist, Dr. Carl Lichtman, who allegedly masterminded the scheme to defraud Prudential Insurance Company of millions of dollars.

"When we examined Lichtman's billing activity, a clear pattern of fraud and embezzlement," Prudential spokesman Kevin Heine. "It was entirely

appropriate for the board of education to take this action against these individuals," Lichtman pled guilty to conspiracy and theft charges in May and has implicated co-conspirators of the elaborate scheme.

Upward of 200 people from Newark's school district and in other municipalities may be involved in the conspiracy that helped Lichtman illegally acquire an admitted \$3.5 million from the New Jersey State Health Benefits program and 35 other insurance carriers over the course of 10 years.

"I've seen estimates of fraud and abuse of up to 100 billion a year across the country," Heine said during a telephone interview. "We have a national anti-fraud division to weed out this kind of fraud and I can tell you they're very busy." All 25 employees, which includes 15 Teachers and 10 non-instructional staff, are alleged to have

submitted claims for unsubstantiated treatment. They allegedly received 25 percent of Lichtman's reimbursement from the district, although treatment was never rendered. Although suspended with pay, the 15 teachers face felony charges that could result in their termination. The non-instructional employees face possible suspension of pay to the loss of their employment, pending the outcome of a departmental hearing and if charges are filed.

Realizing the systemic escalation of these types of misconduct, the State's Superintendents Office has established the Office of Special Investigations to ensure that current and potential wrongdoing is eliminated from the state's largest school district.

"We'll be looking at every facade of wrongdoing by way of contracts

See EDUCATORS FIRED/page B-6

Reviving NJ's urban communities

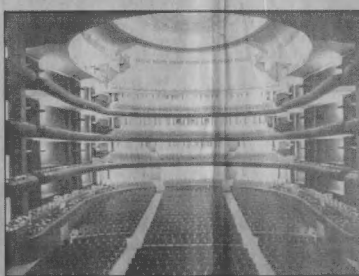
by Kelly Howard

NEW JERSEY—Some of New Jersey's urban city officials are working hard to breathe life back into their hometowns. Cultural and economic improvements are being planned to enrich the lives of the residents as well as cultural offerings.

Asbury Park, Elizabeth, Plainfield, Newark and Orange are just some of the urban areas that continually see the need to improve its economic, as well as cultural offerings. At a recent event in Newark, the state and city previewed an expansive new cultural opportunity that has and will continue to provide jobs within the city. The new New Jersey Performing Arts Center, which began construction in October 1993 and will be completed for an extravagant grand opening in 1997, has employed over 517 different individuals since its start date.

Another addition improving the life of Newark residents, is the refurbishing of its city libraries. While to some it may seem a small thing, but the renovation of Newark's libraries—Springfield Branch in 1989, Weequahic Branch in 1992, North End Branch in 1996, and plans for Van Brunt Branch underway—is very important, as they are utilized for many local and cultural events.

"This Branch (North End) will become a neighborhood cultural anchor, a center for community activity, programming and exhibitions," said Dr. Alex Boyd, director of the library.



Inside the Prudential Hall of the New Jersey Performing Arts Center

Hoping to create a business district that would be more appealing to current and new proprietors, the city of Orange contracted a firm to create Main Street 2000. Utilizing a computer program, Johnson Jones (who also designed Newark's libraries and the Plainfield Health Center) is helping the city create a special identity for its historic retail area.

Upon completion of the project, the streetscape improvements will create a unified environment for both pedestrians and vehicles.

"We're trying to bring things back to a pedestrian street," said planning director James Slaghting plan-

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See URBAN CITIES/page B-6

Surveys: Teen drug use not just a black thing

by Kelly Howard

NEW JERSEY—Despite news, entertainment and public perception that the drug problem in New Jersey is largely an African-American problem, two reports have recently revealed data that proves otherwise.

According to The New Jersey Middle School Survey on Substance Use (Grades 7 and 8), "trial and usage among black 7th and 8th graders is lower than it is among whites and Hispanics for alcohol, inhalants, cocaine, cigarettes and crack, but higher for marijuana."

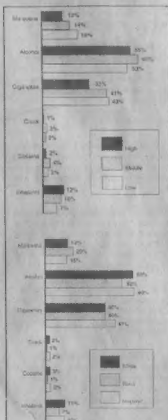
Issued and prepared by the Department of Health and Senior Services, the report is the first statewide survey to document the extent of alcohol, tobacco and other drug use among middle school students. The report showed that only 20 percent of the African-American students surveyed had tried some type of drug within their lifetime, while whites were slightly higher for whites (21.5 percent) and Hispanics (22.8 percent).

Socio-economic status (SES) also showed a significant impact in drug use statistics. Whereas marijuana and cigarettes usage was higher in the lower SES category, alcohol, crack and cocaine were prominent in the middle SES category, and inhalants in the high SES category.

Conducted in 1995, the survey revealed that one of seven students has already tried marijuana and most seventh and eighth graders were offered marijuana, cigarettes, and inhalants by other kids—other friends their own age or older kids. "I'm disturbed that the survey shows that children are starting substance abuse so young and that they find some substances so easy to get," said Health and Senior Services Commissioner Len Fishman.

While the middle school survey indicates that students usually begin experimenting with substances—especially alcohol and tobacco—between ages 10 and 12, the state's sixth survey of high school students shows that use of illegal drugs has increased significantly over the past three years.

"The trend line with high school



The above reports show the standings of drug use among 7th and 8th grade teens according to socio-economic status (top) and race (bottom). The information is part of the New Jersey Middle School Survey on Substance Use recently issued by the NJ Dept. of Health and Senior Services.

student drug use hit a low in the early 1990s and has been rising ever since," said Governor Christine Todd Whitman. "The results of these surveys underscore that more children are 'experimenting' with drugs, and starting very early."

The Drug and Alcohol Abuse Among High School Students—1996, found that more than one of every eight high school students in New Jersey (12.9 percent) reported using one or more substances regularly. This is up 11 percent in 1992.

While illegal drug usage amongst teens is reportedly up, the report frighteningly revealed that legal drugs—alcohol and cigarettes—are the top two drugs of choice of teens.

COMMENTARY

The CIA-Drug Connection: A History of Suspicion

by Earl Ofari Hutchinson

Despite evidence surfacing that suggest some CIA operatives and Contra leaders knew about drug sales in black neighborhoods during the mid 1980s, CIA officials deny the charge. Clinton and the Justice Department are mostly silent, and much of the major media ignore or downplay the story as a "black issue." But the suspicion of CIA activities and Reagan administration indifference, deliberate ignorance, and obstructionism toward the drug trade, can't be easily dismissed. Here's why.

National Security Council staffer Oliver North directed much of the illegal planning, organizing and fundraising for the secret Contra war. North has kept silent on the suspected CIA-Contragate drug operation. But his notes strongly hint that at the very least he and other Reagan administration officials knew about them.

Defense Secretary Casper Weinberger in 1984, rejected a Joint Chiefs of Staff recommendation that the Pentagon commit more resources to stopping shipments of drugs from Asia and Latin America, and the enactment of new anti-drug legislation.

The Pentagon opposed loaning military equipment to foreign governments in 1981 to combat drug trafficking, to deploying American troops in Bolivia and the Reagan secret directive that banned drug trafficking a national security threat in 1986.

Secretary of State Alexander Haig ignored pleas from the State Department's Bureau of International Narcotics Matters for closer coordi-

nation to stop drug shipments into the U.S.

The 1986 anti-drug law required the White House to certify that 25 countries the State Department identified as major drug producing and shipping countries cooperate in fighting the trade or lose half of their economic and military aid. Reagan never did. The right wing, military governments in Laos, Paraguay, and Lebanon openly refused to cooperate. Reagan refused to penalize them because of "national interests."

A 1983 report by the U.S. Army's Southern Command in Panama presented taped interviews, and photo surveillance of drug transactions between Panamanian drug dealers and high ranking military officials closely tied to Manuel Noriega. According to a National Security Council official, the CIA refused to do anything to stop it, claiming that Noriega was an "important asset." Later, a less reliable and much expendable Noriega was overthrown, kidnapped, and imprisoned by the Bush administration.

Even while the recent revelations swirl and black anger mounts over the suspected Contra-cocaine connection and Congress, the CIA and the Justice Department promise investigations, the pattern of government indifference, deliberate ignorance and indirect complicity toward drug sales may presently be repeated in the U.S. relationship with the military controlled civilian regime in Guatemala.

The military and civilian leaders, condemned for the murder and disappearance of thousands of persons,

See SUSPICION/page B-4

PEOPLE

Community Calendar

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(Please only use official nomination form below)

☐ Religion
 ☐ Civil Rights

A black and white portrait of a young man with short, dark hair, smiling at the camera. He is wearing a dark suit jacket over a light-colored shirt and a dark tie. The background is a plain, light color.

—Jesse Jackson

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EDITORIAL

Is there access to equal education?

Providing equal access to education is not limited to admission into a particular learning institution. Equitable access is its broadest term, determined by our commitment to ensure that all children have an undisputed right to be educated. Unfortunately, this society continues to permit disparity when it comes to education.

It is difficult to comprehend our state representatives' neglectful silence on the issue of the "Fair Education Act." This bill would require additional funding to our state's poorer districts when their educational expenditures are not in parity with wealthier districts. It is no surprise that wealthier, primarily white districts, are assured that their children realize success. After all, they're tax dollars are used to maximize their children's potential. And, state funding almost guarantees that their children are far more prepared to achieve in this advancing technological era.

Unfortunately, poorer, primarily African-American and Latino districts, face a greater challenge at realizing their potential. Although, these districts pay their fair share in taxes, our state seems to squander the opportunity to direct adequate funding for these communities. Only when we match dollar for dollar in all districts to fund education will children be provided an equal playing field. If we allow poorer families to fall behind in education, we will never truly achieve parity. This is why it is incumbent on our state representatives to follow the lead of the *Abbott v. Burke* decision. It requires this state to live up to the New Jersey Constitution and provide equal education to all children.

The sins of the parent revisits the child

by Caroline Bennett

The Nashville story was my tragedy of the week. A child died from gun shot wounds when teens and one adult fathered conflict resolution 101, and, again, we faced the interminable nature of violence in our society.

The story out of Nashville said a 32-year-old man was driving a car with his 2-year-old son Donald Cherry Jr., strapped in a safety seat. A group of teenagers swarmed into the lane of Donald's father's car. The father gave the kids "the finger." Seconds later a shot rang out, and Donald Jr., lay dying. The report said the child died at the hospital, and the father hoped for execution of the teens.

All of the people, except the baby for obvious reasons, played a part in a blind cycle of violence. The right to defend by violence" stole a child's future and promised drastic alterations in the futures of several parents—the parents of the 2-year-old—and the parents of a car full of teens, and the teens themselves.

If they continue to resist the teaching of good behaviors, the society will spawn more fathers (and mothers) who teach the younger ones that violence is the only way: that a savior of a car is justifiably answered by the force of "the finger" and a slam on the brakes; that a car justifiably answers the finger; and that execution solves everything, that that cycle of violence is unavoidable, that it must continue until there is no bridge and no forever.

The tragedy of the Nashville story may be that it is another way to resolve conflict, and in some places of the country some people are finding them. The *Christian Science Monitor* reported recently on some inner city schools and kids who are using peaceful ways to resolve conflict.

One of its centerfold series on "One of Us" focused "Out of Harm's Way: Protecting Children from Violence." And the part that caught my eye was on defusing conflict in

Quote of the week

A people who are truly strong should be able to look soberly at both their accomplishments and their problems—past and present.

—Michael Blakely

CITY NEWS

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OPINION

Obscuring the truth about the CIA/crack connection

by Joe Madison

No sooner do we finally have the proof that our government knew that cocaine was being shipped into America's inner cities, than out come the smoke screens to dismiss, discredit and diminish efforts to get to the bottom of the barrel of secrecy. But I can put all the naysayers on notice now: It won't work.

When the San Jose *Mercury News* documented information that leaders of the Nicaraguan Contra rebels, created by the Central Intelligence Agency to topple the ruling Sandinista government, sold tons of cocaine to the Crips and Bloods of Southern California, there was a deafening silence from the major media. It took a few weeks of protest by the community and the couple of nights in jail I spent with Dick Gregory before the "big" media picked up the story. That was the effort to dismiss it.

(Note: How long did it take for the story about political consultant Dick Morris' trysts with his prostitute friend

to make national and international headlines? And that story came from a supermarket tabloid of all places.)

Now that the major media have been reporting the fallout of the story, some are going to great lengths to discredit the findings. For example, on Oct. 4 the *Washington Post* used most of its front page and two full subsequent pages to say that, after its two-week investigation of the *Mercury News* research, no evidence existed that the CIA helped fuel the crack cocaine epidemic and there was no proof that any one region or ethnic group was targeted.

(It took the *Mercury News* more than one year to investigate its story.) The *Post* also ran a patronizing story depicting a laundry list of the hottest black conspiracy theories.

Which brings me to the last strategy of the naysayers—to diminish the impact of the big picture with the issue of race. Rick "Freeway Rick" Ross is identified in the newspaper series as the top drug dealer on Los Angeles streets, who owed his success to Os-

car Blandon, a key player in the Contra fundraising circle. According to the *Mercury News*, Blandon says the profits from the drugs he sold to Ross went to support the Contra rebels.

Certainly there is a role that race played in this. The *Mercury News* reported a study of the price of cocaine paid by Drug Enforcement Administration agents in the early 1980s, was about \$5,200 an ounce. (How many people in the inner cities could afford that?) But by the time it was popular to turn the powder into crack nuggets, "anyone with \$20 could get wasted," according to the *Mercury News*.

No one can deny that the black community was a target; or the fact that the relationship between Ross and Blandon literally helped turn the inner cities into bloody killing fields. But to make this just a black issue, would undercut the total depth of this tragedy.

Everyone in some measure has been impacted by the cocaine scourge. The top money earning cause of building more prisons and keeping inmates locked up. With our tax dollars, we have been bankrolling school systems that can't work because of gang activity and healthcare services for the growing numbers of crack babies, just to name a few.

Instead of putting up smoke screens, the skeptics should ask questions about the pattern in the *Mercury News* series, which reveals that whenever defense attorneys wanted to question someone like Blandon about his

ties to the CIA, there was a court order to stop them.

Or, they should probe what happened to the Senate subcommittee that tried to investigate allegations of Contra cocaine trafficking at the time of the Iran-Contra hearings in the late 80s. "The Justice Department flipped out to prevent us from getting access to people, records—finding anything out at all," said Jack Blum, former chief counsel to the subcommittee, who was quoted in the series.

The media should also investigate the DEA's repeated refusal to release records of Celestino Castillo, a former DEA agent, that would pinpoint government knowledge of cocaine shipments to the U.S. from Central America. Why all the secrecy? If there is nothing to hide, or if there is no basis to the story, as CIA director John Deutch and others have said, then can clean. Release all the records.

Gary Webb, the *Mercury News* reporter who broke the story, says that his investigation did not directly name the CIA as the guilty party, but only that the trail stops at its steps. We, however, have climbed those steps and will keep climbing on the door of the CIA, the DEA and on any other door until we get the truth.

Joe Madison is an award-winning radio talk show host on Washington's WRCA 980. Visit his Internet site at: <http://www.politichood.com/jmadison>.

Judge not, est you be judged

by Sharon Khadijah Vincent

It has been a big joke to listen to a public official make a public statement and accuse the Democratic Party of soliciting illegal campaign contributions. To hear a judge and complaining from the likes of Newt Gingrich, Jesse Helms, Oliver North, etc. is indeed, laughable. It's sly, sly, sly. It's the attitude of violence that knows no other response. The tragedy is the attitude of violence that passes from parents to children and from children to their children; that shows itself in families and communities, in churches and government, in school and society relations, among school adults,

among school board members and between school superintendents and school boards.

And, yes, between an adult and teens on a road with an infant in the middle. Violence seems interminable. But it can be stopped—if we want to stop it—short of more violence.

It comes to actually getting meaningful legislation passed and implemented, they stall and balk. The lobbyists make their secret phone calls and appeals, and if necessary threats, to assure that business continues as usual. There are always a variety of reasons given as to why the legislation was stalled or held up. Everyone points the finger and blames the other guy. Only when the American people really get serious and demand that both major political parties commit to making sure that meaningful campaign finance reform legislation is passed, will the Democratic Party change that are desperately needed.

The cost of running campaigns at the local, state and national levels are more to high. In fact, a lot of good people who want to run for office simply don't bother because they can't raise the kind of funds that are needed. Some would argue that if individuals want to be good politicians, they need to be good fund-raisers, they need to be good fund-raisers, but, some awfully bad political leaders. Their focus and allegiance has been

distorted and derailed. They no longer have the people's interest at heart. The commitment is to the corporations, political action or special interest groups that have given them the most money. The needs and demands of these various entities get catered to first, not because they deserve it, but, because they pull and control the purse strings.

The latest controversies over campaign contributions have some very disturbing undertones. The Republican Party which has accepted campaign donations (legal and illegal) along with the Democratic Party historic has a faint odor of bigotry attached to it. The so-called "Indonesia Connection" has been tossed about, as well as veiled attacks against Asians who have contributed to the Democratic Party coffers. Comments and statements on this matter by the kind of fund-raiser are needed. Some would argue that if individuals want to be good politicians, they need to be good fund-raisers, they need to be good fund-raisers, but, some awfully bad political leaders. Their focus and allegiance has been

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Yet, we don't hear some of the harsh criticism and critiques leveled against these forces.

When Bob Dole, Newt Gingrich and others speak about "foreigners" they seem to be very selective about which "foreigners" will be vocally attacked. The facts certainly point to a number of sources who have interests in business and trade, being connected to individuals in both parties. Whether it has been a Republican or Democrat in the White House, the invitations handed out have been directly connected to the big bucks, the big contributors.

Hopefully, in the next Congress, serious campaign reform legislation can be voted on and passed. If the American people are really concerned and interested in finally seeing some positive changes made in this area, then, the pressure must be put on our legislators to make it happen. The power is really in our hands, but, only if we decide to use it. Let's stop accepting excuses and hold each other accountable on this very important issue.

Examining the legacy of the Million Man March

by Sidney E. Morse
Special to the NNPA

It has been a year since over a million African-American men descended upon the nation's capital to observe a day of atonement and solidarity. Countless more sent their spirit and heartfelt emotion as this day of purging promised to symbolize a new beginning, a shedding of the image that had positioned them as the object of all that's wrong with America.

But since that declarative day, what has occurred speaks less about the good intentions of those who made the journey, than the volumes it reveals about the near structural vacuum of leadership that continues to stand in the way of real progress in the African-American community.

A year ago, Minister Louis Farrakhan was making believers of those who had discounted him before, as he effectively demonstrated his abilities in organizing the triumphant march. Today, confusion surrounds his foreign tour of countries supported of state-sponsored terrorism, giving rise to questions about his purpose, the efficacy of his visit, and whether or not this voyage was a prudent move in service to the African-American community.

Now, instead of focusing on the message of self-help for African-Americans, he is consumed in a battle of whether or not he must register as a foreign lobbyist for a country whose activities are currently illegal.

Since the Million Man March

Kwesi Mufie has become the president and CEO of the NAACP, ushering in a new generation of leadership. Since assuming the position, for the nation's oldest civil rights organization, he has enjoyed something akin to a "honeymoon" with the media that seems to almost place him as a credible and willing participant capable of filling the rather obvious leadership void.

But while Mufie appears to have effectively reduced the financial deficit by his predecessor and engineered certain new organizational dynamics, the challenge of demonstrating the relevance of the NAACP to the lives of contemporary African-Americans remains a question largely unanswered.

Since the "March," the Reverend Jesse Jackson for his part, has championed the issues of the under-representation of African-Americans and other minorities in the film entertainment industry, the Mitsubishi sex and harassment debacle, the discriminatory nature of the closed markets of Japan; the minimum wage issue; the California anti-affirmative action initiative; voter registration and welfare reform. Amidst all this, he managed to give a rousing speech to delegates and the nation at the Democratic National Convention. But despite gallant attempts, Jackson's efforts are all still "worlds by his side."

What is glaringly clear is that the enormous excitement that was generated as a result, The Million Man March did not translate into the kind of leverage that marks the beginning of real

change in the African-American community. Since that event, except for the aggressive attack on affirmative action in California, no clear themes have emerged that allow us to see the future or galvanize African-Americans nationwide to seek change.

In light of current "conventional wisdom" that President Bill Clinton does not appear to be in any imminent danger of losing control of the White House, the agent that might fuel the development of both common themes and subsequent action around which African-Americans might coalesce, is not likely to be revealed this year.

Instead, the agenda of African-American leadership seems to be leveled by a constant barrage of attacks on the gains of the civil rights movement. Frequently finding itself at "effect instead of cause," dealing with the only choice immediately present, that of reaction.

If African-Americans, it is time to acknowledge that the "Freedom Train" has reached its last stop. There is a "Ship of Empowerment" waiting for us to board. The legends that attended the "March" would suggest that many of us, both men and women, want to become "self-empowered," but have been hesitant to board "the ship." African-American leaders have been slow to lead the way to our disembarking one and boarding the other.

The Million Man March could have and still can symbolize the line of demarcation that denotes that transfer: one we are compelled to make if we will participate in the 21st century.

What is needed is a "strategic focus" to serve as a "compass for progress." It has to begin with individual and personal commitment which must be the foundation for leadership.

The two things that each participant at The Million Man March pledged to do was to vote and to become involved in their communities. Will the greatest demonstration ever conducted in the United States merely

leave a landmark in history or will it leave a legacy of result and achievement?

Sidney Morse, is a Los Angeles based-counselor, a strategic development consultant and author of the forthcoming book *Strategic Progressivism: A Solution For African-American Empowerment*.

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Kids Kalendar

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6
JERSEY CITY—Creative Knowing: A Function of Storytelling continues at Jersey City State College with "Native American Stories" by Wolf Song from 9 a.m. to noon. For more info call 201-200-3214.

NOVEMBER 19 THRU 24
NEW YORK—The New Victory Theater presents the Sesame Street Film Festival. For more info call 212-982-4020.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 23
NEW BRUNSWICK—Shoestring Playwrights' fall season of Saturday Classics in Dramatics begins. For more info call 908-932-9772.

HOBOKEN—Stevens Institute of Technology is conducting a conference for 250 young women in 8th to 12th grade, their parents, and teachers. For more info call 201-216-5245.

NOVEMBER 29 THRU DEC. 21
METUCHEN—The Forum Theatre starts off its 1996-97 Kids Forum Series with "The Dangerous Christmas of Red Riding Hood" at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m. For more info call 908-548-0582.

WEDNESDAY, DECEMBER 4
JERSEY CITY—Creative Knowing: A Function of Storytelling concludes with "Multicultural Stories" by Gloria Timpinelli at Jersey City State College from 9 a.m. to noon. For more info call 201-200-3214.

10 ways to succeed in college

CALDWELL—The freshman class at Caldwell College recently received a list of suggestions to better help them cope with college life. The list did not include how to party or what fashions were cool on campus. It did, however, include important advice on how to succeed in college and the officials have decided to share this list with you. The following are things every college student—young or old—need to know:

Believe in yourself. If you couldn't do it, you would not have been admitted. However, there must be a conscious decision on your part to commit to being a successful student. There are students who choose not to succeed.

Introduce your posterior to the library chairs. Learn to sit there for long stretches. Sit and study.

Treat study as a job. Make a schedule and stick to it. One hour of class requires two hours in preparation. A course load of 15 credits is the equivalent of a full-time job.

Don't believe that alcohol and drugs will make classes more interesting or tolerable. Marijuana will not make you more creative, or cocaine make you more worldly.

Know when to look for help. Get to know your college chaplain and director of counseling.

Visit your professors. If you want to know if a certain major or class might interest you, stop in and say hello. **Don't abandon your values.** They are what make you individuals. College is a natural period when you will face many decisions and possibly question on what you believe. Most individuals, however, find they come away with stronger beliefs than before.

Come to class with eagerness and anticipation.

Know that what happens in college is not only important to your future, but the world's future as well. As strange as it seems now, we will look to you for answers to tomorrow's problems.

Don't forget to play and don't ever be bored. Remember New Jersey is part of the metropolitan area, the world's most exciting and important area in the world. Know and appreciate that fact.

Entries needed for Toshiba/NSTA ExploraVision Awards

ARLINGTON, VA.—This fall, students in grades Kindergarten to 12 have the chance to win up to \$10,000 in the fifth annual Toshiba/NSTA ExploraVision Awards, the world's largest student science competition.

Sponsored by Toshiba and the National Science Teachers Association, the competition requires students to work in teams of three or four to envision what a form of technology might look like in 20 years. The project will be researched and created—in visual or written format—by the students, with the supervision of a teacher advisor and an optional community advisor.

"The key to ExploraVision's suc-

cess is that every student—regardless of their academic achievement, age, gender, ethnicity, cultural, or economic background—has an equal chance of winning," stated Jo Anne Vasquez, NSTA's president.

Twelve teams will be selected as national winners. Each student on the first-place teams will win a \$10,000 savings bond; second place winners will receive a \$5,000 savings bond. Every student and advisor who enters the contest will get a gift, and teacher-advisors of winning teams will receive Toshiba equipment for their schools.

Deadline for entries is February 3, 1997. For applications and additional information call 800-EXPLOR-9.

Monmouth County youth get BUSY

MONMOUTH COUNTY—The Monmouth County Human Relations Commission (MCHRC) has launched a new youth services program to be piloted by the Neptune High School Scholarship Committee and local businesses.

The program, Business Under-Understanding Scholarships For Youth (BUSY), will allow students from disadvantaged environments to gain an understanding of business, through internships that will result in scholarships provided by local organizations.

The program aims to teach students the importance of both continuing education and of work. Positive role models will be provided to encourage contact, understanding, and appreciation among diverse groups.

Interested Neptune area businesses, including commercial establishments, small stores, manufacturing, or other service institutions, are encouraged to participate by calling the MCHRC BUSY program at 908-938-6944.

Scholarships in National Architecture Design Competition available

NEWARK—Do you have what it takes to become an architect? High school students who would like to test their architectural prowess and compete for a full college scholarship are invited to enter the "1997 National Architecture Design Competition for High School Students" sponsored by New Jersey Institute of Technology's School of Architecture (SOA).

The competition challenges high school students across the country to use their creativity and artistic talent to design "A Community Theater For Your Town," as this year's project theme.

Entrants will win for college scholarships, including the top prize of one five-year, full-tuition scholarship to NJIT's School of Architecture valued at \$55,000 out-of-state and \$25,000 in-state. Second prize is one five-year, half-tuition scholarship valued at \$27,500 out-of-state and \$12,500 in-state, and fourth prize winners will

receive \$250 cash awards.

The competition is open to all citizens and permanent residents of the United States that have an interest in architecture and are currently attending high school. Students must have a teacher from their school sponsor their project, and submit an affidavit stating the work was unassisted.

Deadlines for the 1997 Architecture Design Competition are: January 22, 1997, competition packages will be mailed to registered applicants; January 31, 1997, registration deadline; entry forms must be postmarked by this date; April 1, 1997, designs must be submitted and postmarked by this date; May 5, 1997, announcement of the winners and presentation of awards. For entry forms call 201-996-3080 or 800-925-NJIT, by fax to Craig Konyk, Competition Coordinator 908-826 or e-mail at <SOA@MCHERTZ.NJIT.EDU>.

Rutgers offers admissions application through the Web

NEW BRUNSWICK—High school seniors can now obtain application forms for admission to Rutgers directly from the university's admissions Web page on the World Wide Web at <http://www.rutgers.edu/ugadmissions>. Prospective students can download the application and get information on application procedures and deadlines.

"With new admissions procedures at Rutgers this year, it is very important that students submit their applications early," said Diane Harris, associate director of undergraduate admissions. "Rutgers applications are available in high school guidance offices throughout New Jersey, but being able to download the application from the website makes it immediately available to applicants throughout the United States and even abroad," Harris pointed out.

The university's new priority deadline allows applicants to apply early with the guarantee that they will be considered for all the undergraduate divisions of their choice and receive early notification of the decision. Students who submit the com-

pleted application by December 15 will receive notification of their status by February 28, 1997.

Applicants interested in merit scholarships should apply for admission as soon as possible to ensure consideration for all awards for which they qualify. Rutgers offers a variety of university-wide merit awards, including the Presidential and James Dickson Carr scholarships and the Rutgers University Award for Academic Achievement.

Students who qualify will be selected from the pool of applicants and no separate application is required. Information on these scholarships is available at the undergraduate admission's website.

The site also gives information about Rutgers' three campuses and how to schedule tours, the undergraduate colleges, majors offered and a variety of programs offered by the university. Students can obtain answers to questions most frequently asked about Rutgers as well as information about costs, financial aid and student life. Visit the home page at <http://www.rutgers.edu>.

Swart, dean of the Newark College of Engineering at NJIT. "The student who demonstrates ingenuity, creativity and engineering aptitude will earn a scholarship to NJIT."

Top prize is a four-year, full-tuition scholarship to NJIT's Newark College of Engineering valued at \$43,500 out-of-state and \$24,500 in-state. Second prize is one four-year half-tuition scholarship valued at \$21,717 out-of-state and \$12,250 in-state. Fourth prize prizes of \$250 in cash also will be awarded.

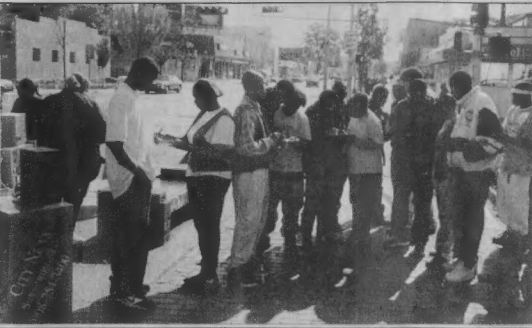
To be eligible, students must be U.S. citizens or permanent residents of the United States and currently at-

tending high school. Enrollment in the Newark College of Engineering is required before scholarship prizes are awarded. Students must have a teacher from their high school sign an affidavit stating that the work is unassisted.

The registration deadline is December 9 and all work must be postmarked before February 17, 1997.

Information and registration details are available via the World Wide Web at www.njit.edu. To request a registration form, contact: Competition Coordinator, Newark College of Engineering, NJIT, University Heights, Newark, NJ 07102-1982. Registration forms can be faxed to 201-996-2326.

East Orange Youth Corps register over 1,000 for last election of the century



Members of the East Orange Youth Corps take to the streets in their voter registration campaign. Photo by Sharon Vincent.

by Sharon Khadijah Vincent

EAST ORANGE—The East Orange New Jersey Youth Corps "Fannie Lou Hamer/Jimmy Lee Jackson Voter Education Project" registered 1,001 new voters since the start of their project on Tuesday, January 22, 1996.

Melvin Duncan, one of the corps members who participated in the project, said, "I am so proud of the work and efforts made by all of my fellow corps members on this Voter Education Project."

"Before we became involved in this project, most of us didn't think about voting or getting involved in any civic activities. Now, we realize that it's important to be involved. We can make a difference. Look at how many people we helped to register. It's great, just great."

The East Orange Youth Corps began the Voter Education Project to help motivate and encourage Youth Corps participants to understand, utilize and use the democratic process for their benefit and the welfare of their community at large.

The goals of the Voter Education Project are: to increase civic aware-

ness among youth in the community; to familiarize Youth Corps participants with the historical facts, data and background pertaining to the struggles and fights to obtain the right to vote; to improve youth participation and involvement in the electoral process; to identify ways to increase voter registration and turnout in local, state and national elections; to improve the self-esteem and civic pride of participants; and to train Youth Corps participants to do voter registration.

An important part of the Voter Education Project are the workshops. Since the project began, a total of 21 workshops have been held covering historical reviews, current events, and various civic issues and topics relating to local, state and national affairs.

Follow-up assignments and work that have been produced as a result of the corps members' participation in these workshops have showcased their talents and creativity.

The publication of a pamphlet, entitled "Voting and You," by the Voter Education Project, is being distributed to assist and aid new voters.

Irma Branch, a corps member who has registered over 80 people, stated that her involvement in this project

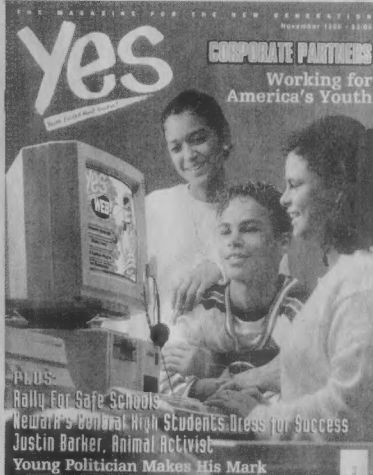
has helped to "...open my eyes and wake me up. When I learned the history behind the fight to give black people the right to vote, I began to appreciate how easy it is now to register to vote."

We don't have to be rich landowners, pay poll taxes or take literacy tests. We just have a simple form to complete, meet the citizenship and age requirements and take the time to go and vote," Branch stated.

The East Orange Youth Corps named their project after Fannie Lou Hamer and Jimmy Lee Jackson because they symbolize how ordinary citizens, deciding to take a stand, can make a difference. Certainly, the young people involved in making this project successful as it has been, have made a significant difference by reaching out to help educate and enlighten their peers, as well as other members of their community.

Mayor Cardell Cooper and the City Council of East Orange issued a resolution commending the Corps for "its hard work and commitment to the 'Fannie Lou Hamer/Jimmy Lee Jackson Voter Education Project.'" The resolution was presented to the Youth Corps on Monday, October 28, 1996.

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LIFESTYLES

Health Calendar

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6
LIVINGSTON—The Blood Center of New Jersey will host a blood drive at St. Barnabas Medical Center from 8 to 9 p.m. For more info call 1-800-BLOOD-NJ.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7
HAMMONTON—AARP will host a forum "HMOs: Are They For Me?" at Columbia Caterers from 9 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. For more info call 609-987-0744.

CALDWELL—The Blood Center of New Jersey will host a blood drive at Masonic West Essex Lodge from 4 to 8 p.m. For more info call 1-800-BLOOD-NJ.

WEST ORANGE—The Blood Center of New Jersey will host a blood drive at West Orange Police Department from 1 to 3 p.m. For more info call 1-800-BLOOD-NJ.

SOUTH BRUNSWICK—Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital presents a course on Babies and Pets at 7:30 p.m. For more info call 908-937-8820.

PLAINFIELD—Plainfield Senior Citizens Service Center will provide flu shots for seniors at the Center. For more info call 908-753-3506.

MONTGOMERY—Carrier Foundation Inc. presents "Development & Clinical Issues in Adoption" from noon to 1 p.m. For more info call 908-281-1461.

Plainfield offers home improvement funding for seniors

PLAINFIELD—The city of Plainfield has funding available for residents 60 years of age and over to provide for residential maintenance services. Minor home repairs such as replacing door locks, installation of handrails/ramps, yard work, improvements/repairs roofs, doors, windows, interior plumbing, etc. are eligible.

There are income restrictions (income levels between 100 to 200 percent of poverty level). For information on qualification call Donna Morris at 753-3377. Spanish speakers call George Mercado at 753-3402.

AIDS cases among blacks still high

by Carolyn Thompson

BOSTON (AP)—Whites who are at a high risk for contracting AIDS are apparently heeding the warnings. However, the case does not seem to be the same for blacks, who continue to contract the disease in disproportionately high numbers, experts report.

Galvanized by statistics indicating that blacks will account for more than half of the AIDS cases by the year 2000, black leaders recently convened an emergency summit to plot prevention strategies.

Conference organizer Mario Cooper noted that the number of AIDS

cases among blacks and whites were, for the first time, equal in 1995. Both amounted to 40 percent of newly reported cases, while Hispanics accounted for 19 percent, and Asians and American Indians made up the rest.

Statistics from the Centers for Disease Control show that last year there were 93 cases of AIDS reported for every 100,000 blacks, compared to 15 cases for every 100,000 whites. The experts agreed that the solution is more complex than simply telling minorities how the disease is contracted: through sex or sharing of needles among drug users. They said blacks

must embrace the cause of AIDS prevention the way homosexuals did a decade ago.

"Part of (the problem) is denial that has been characteristic of almost every community affected by AIDS," said Dr. Mark Smith, executive vice president of the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, which helped fund the summit at the Harvard AIDS Institute.

"The reality of it is, I think people understand how the disease is spread," said Cooper, former chairman of the AIDS Action Council, a Washington-based policy group. But, he said limited access to health care

has slowed progress in halting the disease.

Conference participants asked that groups like the NAACP and Urban League, as well as schools and the media, get involved in AIDS education. They also urged communities to seek out federal funding.

"In terms of prevention and education, the vast majority of funds and efforts have not gone to the communities that are now impacted by the disease," Cooper said. "Traditionally, gay male clinics and service organizations have driven the way the money is appropriated."

According to CDC, 70 percent of white men who contracted AIDS from July 1995 through June 1996, were infected through homosexual sex, while 11 percent of the cases were attributed to intravenous drug use. Among black men, the percentage of cases blamed on sex and drug use were equal—33 percent.

Among white women, during the same period, 39 percent of new cases were attributed to drug use, and 41 percent to heterosexual contact. Among black women, 36 percent of the cases were attributed to drugs and 37 percent to heterosexual sex.

United celebrates centennial anniversary



NEWARK—More than 400 people—honorees and distinguished guests—recently helped United-Children's Hospital of New Jersey usher in its second century of existence during the third annual Children's Art Ball. With the beautiful Manhattan skyline as the backdrop, the guests, including jazz musician David Sanborn, as well as local jazz artists The Geary Moore Trio, Melvin Davis Trio and Jason "Malletman" Taylor and his quartet, packed the recently restored Central Railroad of New Jersey Terminal on the grounds of Liberty State Park in Jersey City. The ball, organized by the United Healthcare System Foundation, was held to recognize the 100th Anniversary of The Children's Hospital of New Jersey. Proceeds from the event will support United. Pictured above as an outspoken advocate for the global crisis faced by children, adolescents and women with AIDS, and the related funding issues in the area, local jazz musician "Malletman" Taylor was one of several performers to help United-Children's Hospital of New Jersey celebrate its centennial anniversary.

'Dr. Feel Good' is in the house



by Myra A. Thomas

NEW BRUNSWICK—Opening the morning with a positive and uplifting speech, entrepreneur and supermodel Barbara Smith spoke before a crowd of some 300 women at the first Women's Health Forum. Presented by the Women's Wellness and Healthcare Connection at Robert Wood Johnson University Hospital, the day-long program on October 22 focused on an assortment of health issues affecting women today.

Calling herself "Doctor Feel Good," Smith offered a motivational speech that opened the all-day pro-

gram. Smith was excited about the educational forum, and the information it provided to the women involved. "This is going to be the beginning of many things for many women who are here today," Smith said, in addressing the crowd.

A television spokesperson, author, restaurateur and supermodel, Smith shared her ideas for personal and professional success. Smith's face has graced the cover of Ebony and Essence. She was also the first African-American woman to appear on the cover of Mademoiselle magazine. After her speech, Smith graciously signed copies of her new book, "Entertaining and Cooking for Friends."

A practicing surgeon and medical correspondent for "Good Morning America," Dr. Nancy Snyderman was the luncheon keynote speaker. Dr. Snyderman offered a lecture on prescriptions for well-being. Dr. Snyderman spoke on the need to be a "proactive patient." She also reminded the women in the audience to not neglect their own health, and to take care of the health of the rest of the family.

In addition to the speakers, participants were able to sit in on workshops on such topics as menopause, health screening for women, stress

reduction and child-bearing options. Additional information was also distributed on everything from high blood pressure to breastfeeding.

Brenda Stith, a resident of Piscataway and participant in the health forum, was impressed by the speakers and the workshops offered. "This is giving women the confidence to challenge and ensure their wellness," Stith said.

NewarkYM/WCA hosts open house

NEWARK—Come and enjoy a free day at the Newark YM/WCA on November 9, from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. What better way to join a fitness center than by trying it out.

If you join the YM/WCA on this date the joiners fee will be waived. This is a savings of up to \$48.

Activities available are: Funk Toning Fitness Class; Central Ward Cheerleaders Demo; Youth Volleyball Practice; Step/Toning Fitness Class; Spinning Fitness Class; Treadmill Workout Demo; and Youth Basketball League Practice, from 2 to 3 p.m. Also available will be Fitness Testing, from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., and Free Chair Massage Demo, from 10 to 2 p.m.

For more information call the YM/WCA at 201-598-6815.

SMALL BUSINESS BANKING

My company now makes an expanded clothing line, yet my bank still fits my needs.



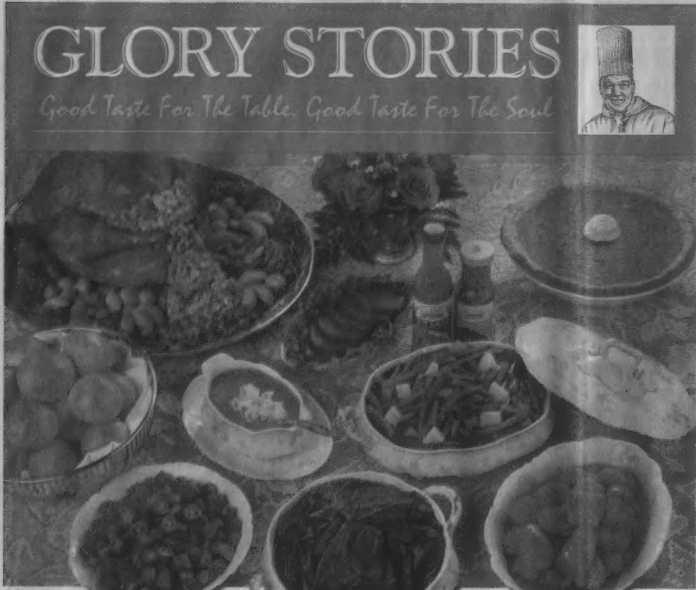
As your business needs grow, your bank must be flexible enough to meet them. At Summit Bank, we offer a wide range of services from simple business checking accounts to innovations like Business Express/PC banking. So when you're looking for a financial partner to support you, try us on for size. Call Sy Henderson in our Minority Lending Group at 908-438-7208.

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Holiday Feasts

The holiday dinner table is your calling card for family members to enjoy the best of your culinary skills. Set the mood with a lace tablecloth, dust the china and crystal and set a grand table to remind your loved ones that they are special.

To ensure that your food is as wonderful as the occasion demands, let Glory Foods assist you in the kitchen with our traditional, yet simple recipes for old Southern favorites. Our recipes for oyster

dressing and sweet potato pie have been simplified to convenient preparations using Glory Foods products. There is even a quick and easy version of candied yams that cooks on top of the stove in about 15 minutes because there are so many things to do, let the addition of Glory Foods pre-seasoned vegetables complement your holiday menu plans. They really are "Just About The Best!" Happy Holidays and Good Cooking!

Roasted Turkey with Giblet Gravy
Ingredients
Turkey.....1

Poultry Seasoning.....2 Tbl
Salt.....2 Tsp
Pepper.....1 Tsp
Gravy
Chicken Broth.....2 - 13.75 oz cans
Giblets (liver, gizzard, etc.).....1 bag (from turkey)
Onion (finely chopped).....1
Green Bell Pepper (chopped).....1/2
Celery (finely chopped).....1 stalk
Butter/Margarine.....4 Tbl 1/2 stick
Flour.....5 Tbl
Poultry Seasoning.....1 Tsp
Salt and Pepper.....To taste
Boiled Egg (chopped).....1 or 2
Method
1. Season the cavity of the turkey with the poultry seasoning, salt and

pepper. Roast uncovered in a shallow pan at not more than 300 degrees until 150 degrees internal temperature or the juices run clear. During cooking, baste with the juices or butter. Let stand 15 minutes before carving.
2. In a medium pot, melt butter using medium heat. Brown the vegetables in the butter until almost tender. Chop the giblets and add to the vegetables, allowing them to brown lightly. Add the flour and allow to brown while stirring constantly

3. Pour the chicken broth into the mixture and blend thoroughly. Add the poultry seasoning and let the gravy simmer 20 minutes until thickened, stirring occasionally.
4. Season with salt and pepper and finish by adding the chopped eggs.
Yields approximately
3 1/2 Cups

Glorious Oyster Dressing
Ingredients
Glory Foods Homestyle Cornbread Mix.....1 pkg prepared
Chicken Broth.....2 - 13.75 oz cans
Onion (finely chopped).....1
Green Bell Pepper (chopped).....1
Celery (finely chopped).....2 stalks
Eggs.....2
Poultry Seasoning.....2 tsp
Salt.....1/2 tsp
Pepper.....1/2 tsp
Oysters (shucked in liquid).....16 oz
Flour.....1/2 cup
Salt and Pepper.....1/4 Tsp, each
Oil.....3 cups
Method
1. In a small pot, heat 3 cups of oil. Strain the oysters, saving the liquid. Check the liquid for bits of shells and remove them. Sprinkle the oysters with 1/4 tsp salt and pepper, coat with flour, and fry until dark golden brown. Drain on paper towel and set aside.
2. Boil the onion, celery, and pepper in the chicken broth until tender.
3. In a large mixing bowl, crumble the cornbread and sprinkle with seasonings. Add the eggs and oyster liquid and mix thoroughly. Pour the chicken broth with the vegetables into the bread mixture and blend. Chop the oysters in large chunks and fold into the dressing. Bake 350 degrees about 1 hour until the dressing is firm, but not dry.
Yields 6-12 Servings

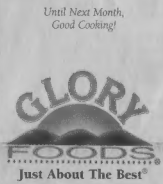
Glory's Bourbon Sweet Potatoes
Ingredients
Glory Sweet Potatoes.....1 Large (29 oz) or 2 Small (15 oz) Cans
Light Brown Sugar.....1/2 cup
Granulated Sugar.....1/2 cup
Butter/Margarine.....4 Tbl (1/2 stick)
Water.....1/2 cup
Vanilla Flavor.....1/2 Tsp
Bourbon (optional).....1 Tbl or additional 1/2 tsp vanilla
Method
1. In a medium skillet combine water and both sugars. Over moderately high heat, cook until sugar is completely melted and mixture begins to boil, occasionally stirring.
2. Add butter and return to boil.

3. Remove from flame or heat source and add the vanilla and bourbon. Quickly return to heat (BE CAREFUL, ALCOHOL IS FLAMMABLE) and allow the alcohol to burn itself out.
4. Reduce heat and add the cans of drained sweet potatoes, gently turning to coat evenly. Allow to simmer slowly 5-10 minutes, occasionally turning.
5. Remove from heat and serve with Glory's Pre-Seasoned Greens or String Beans.
Serves 6-8

Easy-As-Pie Old Fashioned Sweet Potato Pie
Ingredients
Glory Foods Cut Sweet Potatoes.....10-29 oz can (drained)
Pie Shell (deep dish).....1 unbaked 9" Flour.....1/2 cup
Sugar.....1/2 cup
Brown Sugar.....1/2 cup
Eggs.....2
Butter/Margarine (softened).....4 Tbl 1/2 stick
Vanilla Extract.....2 Tsp
Cinnamon.....1 Tsp
Nutmeg.....1 Tsp
Baking Powder.....1/2 Tsp
Salt.....1/4 Tsp
Method
1. Whip sweet potatoes with a mixer to soften and remove excess strings.
2. Add remaining ingredients and mix thoroughly. Pour into pie shell and bake at 350 degrees about 1 hour until the center is firm. Cool before slicing.
Yields 1 Pie

For questions or comments write to: Glory Foods, Inc. Post Office Box 328948, Columbus, OH 43232.

Until Next Month,
Good Cooking!



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NOW YOU CAN HAVE THE GLORY.

Who can forget the taste of Mom's home cooking? It's a taste that went right to your soul.

Mom's special mixture of seasonings gave every dish a taste all its own and it's a taste you'll always remember. Now, when you can't get home and you long for the taste of Mom's home cooking, reach for Glory Foods. Glory Foods conveniently packaged, pre-seasoned side dishes, let you give your family the taste of yesterday's down-home cooking, today.

Glory Foods variety of canned Southern-style Greens, Beans and Peas, seasoned and accented with the flavor of home-style cooking lets you prepare a quick and delicious meal in minutes. You just heat them and eat them!

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DO YOUR BIRD A FLAVOR!

Parks Sausage Stuffing

(FOR 10 TO 12 LB. BIRD)

8 cups Bread Crumbs
(4 soft white & 4 corn bread)*
1 lb. Parks Hot'n Sagey Sausage
1 cup Onion, chopped
1 cup Celery, chopped
1/2 cup Green Pepper, chopped
Salt to taste
2 Eggs, well beaten

Liquid from Giblets or Warm Water to moisten



METHOD
1. Crumble sausage in large skillet, brown lightly, pour off all but 4 tablespoons of drippings.
2. Add vegetables, sauté until tender and transparent.
3. Toss bread with salt, eggs, sausage and vegetables.
4. Moisten with liquid - just enough to form a loose ball.

*For best results use Glory Foods Homestyle Corn Bread mix, no crusts, or white bread crumbs entirely.



More Parks' Sausages. Mom, Please!

Note: Use Parks Famous Flavor Sausage for a milder seasoned dressing.

Got news? We want to hear it. Call us at 908-754-3400 or fax story ideas in to 908-753-1036

ENTERTAINMENT

Billboard

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6
LINCOLN—Abdul Umehba Umofa of Philadelphia and Barbados will read her poetry at Brookdale Community College. For performance times, call 908-224-2106.

NOVEMBER 6 & 7
NEW YORK—S.O.B.'s Bar/Restaurant/Club presents Angela Bofill in concert. For more info call 212-243-4940.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7
MORRISTOWN—The Parents Association of Morristown-Beard School will sponsor "A Madley of Fashion," at The Chantler in Short Hills. For more info call 201-539-3032.

NEW YORK—The Jacksina Co. presents "The Secret of Life" by David Simpatico at the Mini Theater, 211 West 43rd Street. For more info call 212-221-8361.

NOVEMBER 7 THRU 24
NEWARK—The African Globe Theater Works presents "Medea." For more info call 201-624-1594.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8
NEWARK—The Priory Restaurant hosts Friday's in the Album with Carlos Ponce from 7 to 11 p.m. For more info call 201-242-8012.

GREENBROOK—The Plainfield Area Chapter of the American Red Cross will sponsor its Big Band Concert featuring Les Walker and the Starburst Big Band at Greenbrook Middle School at 8 p.m. For more info call 908-756-6414.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 8
NEW YORK—Wynton Marsalis and nephew Danilo Perez will host "What's Latin Jazz?" at 11:00 a.m. in Lincoln Center. For more info call 212-721-6550.

IRVINGTON—The Jihad Health Network, Inc. presents its Fifth Annual Social and Fundraiser "A Tribute to Our African-American Men" at Waris Cultural Center from 7 p.m. to midnight. For more info call 201-242-1324.

NOVEMBER 9 AND 10
NEW YORK—Spectra Photography & Positive Music present a Holiday Art Exhibit from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. For more info call 212-966-0500.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 10
EAST ORANGE—The East Orange Public Library will present song stylist and trumpeter Hunter Hayes at 2:00 p.m. in the East Orange Room at the Library. For more info call 201-286-5608.

WAYNE—Jazz Trombonist J.J. Johnson joins the William Paterson Jazz Ensemble at 4 p.m. in the Shea Center for the Performing Arts. For more info call 201-595-2371.

SUNDAYS, NOVEMBER 10 AND 17
NEWARK—The Priory Restaurant hosts Bright Moments with Linda Ipanema from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. For more info call 201-242-8012.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13
NEWARK—The Newark Museum continues with its three-part series, Rethinking American Art: The Twentieth Century with Judith Wilson's presentation of Bob Thompson's St. George and the Dragon. Rethinking Pop Art & Black Culture in the 1950s.

NEW BRUNSWICK—The State Theatre presents Nancy Wilson and Joe Williams in concert. "Simply Elegant." For more info call 908-247-7200.

November 13 thru November 30
NEW YORK—The Gallery at Lincoln Center presents the exhibition and sale

The State Theatre presents an evening with Nancy Wilson and Joe Williams

NEW BRUNSWICK—Touring together for the first time in the United States, internationally acclaimed singers Nancy Wilson and Joe Williams will perform a concert entitled *Simply Elegant* at the State Theatre on Wednesday, November 13 at 8 p.m.

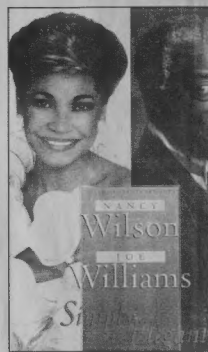
Vocalists Nancy Wilson and Joe Williams are part of a select group of entertainers whose art is so timeless, style is so distinctive, and longevity in the world of music is so remarkable that they have earned the right to be called legendary.

After more than three decades and over the course of more than 50 albums, Nancy Wilson continues to receive rave reviews. Winner of an Emmy Award for *The Nancy Wilson Show* and a Grammy Award for Best Rhythm and Blues Album, *How Glad I Am*, she also has been highly visible on television, where her appearances include *The Carol Burnett Show*, *The Cosby Show*, *Arsenio Hall*, and *Sinbad*. A song stylist of rare talent, Nancy Wilson has been described as having "a voice like smoke... dense and thick, it curls its way around song lyrics."

Born in Ohio, she moved to New York to pursue her career, where she recorded her first chart hit with Cannonball Adderly, *Save Your Love For Me*.

The winner of 1983's Tokyo Song Festival, Nancy earned a Grammy

nomination for *Forbidden Lover* in 1987 and *With My Lover Beside Me* in 1991. Her inimitable talent was recognized with a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame that same year.



Hailed by critics as "the greatest voice alive," Joe Williams can be heard on over 45 albums. *I Just Want to Sing* garnered a Best Jazz Vocal Grammy Award in 1985. He has also been voted Best Jazz Vocalist by *Down Beat* magazine and was honored by NARAS with its coveted Governor's Award at the Grammy Awards Ceremony in 1983.

Delroy Lindo is on the rise

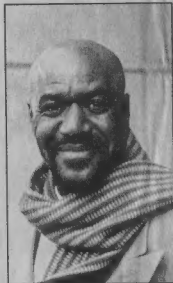
by Dorrit Ragozine

"I love acting," says Delroy Lindo, who stars as Mel Gibson and Rene Russo in director Ron Howard's intense thriller for Touchstone Pictures, *Ransom* (opening nationwide November 8). "Acting is one of the things I am so happy and proud to be doing," the versatile actor says.

And he deserves to be proud. He has pursued his passion and received tremendous critical acclaim for his roles. With a non-stop filming schedule, he's one of Hollywood's busiest rising stars. This enthusiastic, affable and talented actor's recent films have kept him in front of the camera and in the public's eye continuously for a year.

"I've literally been busy from January 1, 1995, when I began rehearsals for *Get Shorty* and I haven't stopped working," he says.

Ransom, Ron Howard's first film since his Academy Award nominated *Apollo 13*, is about maverick New York tycoon Tom Mullen (Mel Gibson), who is used to mediating tough business deals for his corporation. But when his son Sean (Bravley Nolte) is kidnapped, and an FBI rescue operation goes awry, Tom must



Delroy Lindo

mastermind a daring counter-measure to get his son back.

Lindo plays Hawkin, a seasoned FBI agent assigned to the case who, begrudgingly, must work with Mullen. With time running out and Mullen's wife (Russo) horrified by her husband's shocking tactics, Tom faces the most difficult negotiation of his life.

To prepare for his role, Lindo met with real FBI agent Bob Shay, who also was one of the film's technical advisors. "I went to the local FBI office and talked with Shay and other officers, and collaborated with Shay throughout the filming," Lindo says. "His input was invaluable."

Although Jamaican-born Lindo often cast in motion pictures as the "bad guy," he was formally trained as a classical stage actor at San

NEWARK—The festivities of the Newark Jazz Festival continues with Jazz Saxophones at The Library on Friday, November 8, featuring Jesse Morrison at the Newark Public Library Continental Hall from noon to 1:30 p.m. For more information call 733-7793. Bring lunch, complimentary beverage supplied. Turn out for "Jazz Treasures" in the Tri-State Ballroom of the Robert Trent Travelodge, featuring Poncho Sanchez Latin Band with Mongo Santamaria at 8 p.m.

Young people can get in the swing of things with the young people's program Invitational Jazz Lin-

His special relationship with the Count Basie Orchestra produced such hits as *Ev'ry Day*, *Roll 'Em Pete*, and *Alright, O.K., You Win*. Mr. Williams is also widely known for his portrayal of Grandpa Al on *The Cosby Show*.

Although he is best known as a blues singer, *Ev'ry Day* was placed in the Recording Industry Hall of Fame in 1993. Williams performs exquisitely whether he is singing pop tunes, jazz standards, or romantic ballads.

Born in Georgia in 1929, his early years were not easy. While still a child, he moved to Chicago with his mother to escape the racism of the South. Chicago radio enabled him to expand the many great jazz and blues artists of that time. At age 17, he got his first professional experience singing with the Johnny Long Orchestra.

He has received numerous awards and honors including a star on the Hollywood Walk of Fame and Honorary Doctorate of Music degrees from the famed Berklee School of Music in Boston and Hamilton College in New York.

Tickets are on sale now at the State Theatre Box Office located at 15 Livingston Avenue in New Brunswick. For telephone ticket orders or information call 908-245-7469, Monday to Saturday, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.

Francisco's acclaimed American Conservatory Theatre. There he sharpened his talents, in classic plays such as Shaw's *Man and Superman* and Shakespeare's *Measure for Measure*. He went on to receive Tony and Drama Desk Award nominations for his performance in August Wilson's *J. Edgar*.

His Broadway credit includes *Master Harold and the Boys* he also performed off-Broadway in *The Helicopter* and *Playwrights Horizons*. The New York Shakespeare Festival's productions of *As You Like It*, *Romeo and Juliet* and *Spell 7*; and *District Line* for the Negro Ensemble Company.

Hollywood eventually beckoned and Lindo's impressive list of film credits shows that he is on a very focused track. He's thankful for the amount of work he has received and credits Spike Lee for being the stepping stone to his success in film. "I'm working all the time. However, I would not be in *Ransom*, if it were not for the relationship I forged with Spike Lee and the opportunities he gave me," Lindo says.

It was his role as Rodney in Lee's contemporary urban drama *Clockers* (written by Richard Price who co-wrote *Ransom*), that brought him to the forefront of recognizable Hollywood. Lindo also worked with Lee on *Malcolm X*, for which he earned a NAACP Image Award nomination for his portrayal of West Indian Archie, and *Crooklyn*.

Upcoming for Lindo, is *Feeling Minnesota*, a slice-of-life comedy co-starring Keanu Reeves and Cameron Diaz. Lindo also starred in the HBO original movie, *Sold to the Game*, a drama which explores the lives of Satchel Paige (played by Lindo), Josh Gibson, Jackie Robinson and the Negro baseball leagues prior to the integration of major league baseball.

provision Workshop, on Saturday, November 9 directed by Steve Colson at the Robert Trent Travelodge. Instructors will include Ronnell Bey and Bradford Hayes. This event is sponsored by Chase Manhattan Bank, and will run all day from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. For more information call 643-3605.

The treats continue on Saturday, and Sunday November 9 and 10 with Ertha Kin, Will Downing and Ronnell

Chaka Khan to perform at NBUF benefit concert

NEW YORK—

National Black United Fund, Inc. (NBUF) and *Black Enterprise* Magazine have joined together to present "Advancing Wealth/Building Resources," a benefit concert featuring the

legendary Chaka Khan at the Beacon Theater.

Scheduled for Monday, November 11 at 8 p.m., the concert will include a recognition of *Black Enterprise* Magazine for its contribution to community economic development. Concert proceeds will go to support NBUF's African-American Community Appeal, a fund-raising drive



Chaka Khan

which supports community and economic empowerment for NBUF's programs in 21 affiliate areas, which include New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania.

The evening will open with jazz will perform Sherry Winston bringing bright notes from her quartet. And R&B diva Chaka Khan will reward the audience with a wondrous evening of old and new sounds. Tickets at \$35, \$50, and \$65 are available at Ticket Master 212-307-7171. Her new album is due for release November 12.

Capleton 'The Prophet' to perform at Symphony Hall



Reggae artist Capleton

ORANGE—On Friday, November 8, get out your dancing shoes and party clothes and prepare to witness a prophecy. Reggae superstar Capleton, dance hall's "Prophet" will grace the stage of Newark Symphony Hall's Terrace Ballroom for a night of unforgettable reggae and unity.

Capleton burst onto the "American Reggae scene" last year with his chart topping single *Tour*. Before, that he was well known in Jamaican circles blasting off hits like *Woman Me Lotion* and *Bumbe Roll*. Backed by the T3 Band, "The Prophet" will perform hits from his album *Tour*. Music will be provided by New Jersey's number one sound system Twin Tower. For ticket information call 201-643-8009.

Crossroads new season opens Coming of the Hurricane



Anthony Chialoin

NEW BRUNSWICK—Crossroads Theatre Company opened its 1996-1997 season with playwright Keith Glover's *Coming of the Hurricane*, a Nineteenth Century tale of love and boxing.

Coming of the Hurricane is directed by Broadway Director Harold Scott and reunites Roger Robinson and Viola Davis, the two Tony nomi-

nees in last season's Broadway production of August Wilson's *Seven Guitars*.

Coming of the Hurricane will run through November 17. The play is about men whose bare knuckle bouts make the difference between love and hate in the Reconstruction era. The play—more on reverse side evolves around, Criss, an ex-cutter, (a slave whose master forced him into boxing matches with other slaves) who comes out of retirement to assure a better life for the child his young wife carries. It is set in Nineteenth Century Bailleton, MD, a small town just south of the Antietam Battlefield, where a major battle occurred during the Civil War. Criss and Hurricane, a white fighter, both share the historic event in that both of them fought in the battle on opposite sides.

Playwright Glover has drawn upon his experiences as a spectator at fights in the 1970s to write this production.

Performances are Wednesday through Saturday at 8 p.m., Saturday and Sunday at 3 p.m. and selected Sundays at 7:30 p.m. and Thursday matinees at 11 a.m. For ticket information, contact Group Sales Manager Ron Neal at 908-249-5581, ext. 17. For more information regarding single tickets, call the box office at 908-249-5560.

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BUSINESS

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Business Calendar

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 6
SOMERSET—The Somerset Chamber of Commerce invites you to attend its **Monthly Networking Social** to be held at the Old Mill Inn from 5:30 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. For more info call 908-704-0888.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 7
UNION—The Union County Economic Development Corp., in conjunction with the Electronic Commerce Resource Center at the University of Scranton, is holding a forum on **Business Opportunities with the Department of Defense through Electronic Data Interchange**. For more info call 908-527-1166.

NOVEMBER 7-8
CHICAGO, IL—Target Conference will hold a two-day seminar on **Integrated Marketing for Businesses**. For more info call 203-857-5660.

WASHINGTON, DC—Target Conference will hold a seminar on **The Basics of Business-to-Business Direct Marketing**. For more info call 203-857-5660.

NOVEMBER 7-10
DAYTONA BEACH, FL—The Fall Conference of the National Black Chamber of Commerce will be held at the Holiday Inn Express Resort. For more info call 202-416-1822 or fax 202-363-0666.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 8
SOMERSET—The Mullerberg Foundation is sponsoring the **Third Annual Business Leaders Luncheon**. The theme of the luncheon is "Emerging Technology Companies and the Future of Entrepreneurial Companies." For more info call 908-668-2025.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9
NEW YORK, NY—A free seminar, **Destination MBA**, will be held at the Marriott Financial Center. The seminar is designed especially for groups that are underrepresented in the profession of business. For more info call 1-800-446-0807.

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 12
NEW BRUNSWICK—NJAWBO Chapter Breakfast meeting. For more info call 908-940-6990.

WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 13
MARTINSVILLE—The Somerset County Chamber of Commerce will hold its **Business Recognition Awards Luncheon**. For more info call 908-725-1652.

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 14
NEWARK—The New Jersey Institute of Technology's Manufacturing Extension Partnership and the Center for Manufacturing Systems is sponsoring a conference on **ISO 14000—What to Expect: A Conference for New Jersey Industry**. For more info call 201-596-2876.

NEW YORK, NY—The NY/NJ Minority Purchasing Council, Inc. will host the **14th Annual Partnership Awards Gala**, honoring outstanding minority business enterprises at the Sheraton New York Hotel & Towers. For more info call 212-522-7632.

IRVINGTON—The Township of Irvington (Urban Enterprise Zone and the NJ Economic Development Authority) will present a **Business Development Seminar**, from 9:30 a.m. to 11:00 a.m. at Christian Pentecostal Church. For more info call 201-399-5638.

Pickett

Continued from page A-1

McCarter and English, the largest in the state. Pickett left McCarter and English in 1974 to co-found his own law firm in Newark.

"I went on to found, at the time, probably the largest minority owned firm called Pickett and Jennings," he said. "We were the first black attorneys to become general counsel to the Newark Board of Education, or to any Board of Education in the state of New Jersey." Pickett moved to a solo practice in 1979, after his partner decided to pursue other avenues.

Pickett "saw into the legal arena is vast, after some 24 years of experience in complex civil and criminal litigation. And, with his legal background with the public school system, he does note that he has a real legal expertise in matters involving education. "I was one of the few minority attorneys, sometimes the only minority attorney, in that kind of litigation that had such a major impact on the course of public education in New Jersey," Pickett noted.

As an African-American, Pickett believes that he did bring a "real insight into the issue of educating urban children." "I think it is important that in those kinds of cases, minority lawyers, especially African-American lawyers are at the table," he added. "For too long, we've had other lawyers fighting our battles for us, and I just think we need more and more minority lawyers willing to take that kind of

See PICKETT page B-4

Parsippany company settles 'slamming' suit

NEWARK—A Parsippany company, alleged by seven states of "slamming" small businesses by fraudulently switching their long distance carriers, has agreed to settle the lawsuits brought by New Jersey, Illinois, and Arkansas, and pay \$465,000 to resolve the pending complaints in all seven states.

National Accounts, Inc., ("National Accounts") of 119 Cherry Hill Road, Parsippany, has agreed to pay New Jersey, Illinois and Arkansas \$35,000 each and to pay Michigan, Idaho, Tennessee and Wisconsin \$45,000 each to resolve consumer complaints in those states. Michigan, Idaho, Tennessee and Wisconsin did not file suit against National Accounts.

National Accounts, which did not admit liability in the settlement, also agreed to make restitution to consumers in these seven states, including those who come forward in the next 90 days. It also agreed to implement clearer advertising and authorization messages, including a follow-

up package that gives the consumer the information needed to understand the switch in services and, if desired, to cancel. This system of checks and balances goes even further than the minimum consumer protection currently required by Federal Communications Commission's regulations on "slamming" practices.

"This was the first slamming case filed in state history," said Mark S. Herr, New Jersey Division of Consumer Affairs Director. "Nationally, as well as in New Jersey, slamming has become a significant new threat to consumers, estimated to cost Americans \$100 million a year."

"This is a victory for the citizens of New Jersey," Governor Christine Todd Whitman said. "New Jersey will not tolerate slamming or any other activity that would deceive or defraud its citizens."

Consumer Affairs and the Board of Public Utilities filed suit in May against National Accounts alleging that the company violated the state's consumer fraud and utilities laws when

it unlawfully switched the long distance services of small New Jersey businesses to one it was offering without proper authorization.

According to the complaint, National Accounts began soliciting New Jersey business owners around December 1993 after purchasing discounted bulk long distance telephone services from the AT&T network. The company then allegedly attempted to "resell" the long distance services to those businesses at discounted rates. The complaint alleged that in sales pitches to New Jersey business owners, many of whom were AT&T customers, National Accounts made it appear as if the company was affiliated with AT&T, although it was not. The complaint goes on to allege that in other instances National Accounts concealed its identity altogether, leading the businesses to believe that National Accounts was part of their current long distance phone company and that they were merely switching the type of long distance plan they had, not the carrier.

Rutgers family business forum created

PRINCETON JUNCTION—The Rutgers Center for Applied & Professional Psychology announced today the formation of the Rutgers Family Business Forum, a member organization that will address issues unique to family-owned businesses.

The organization will assist family businesses in accounting, banking, insurance, law, marketing, psychology and other professional disciplines, in part, through the support of its corporate partners: MassMutual Life Insurance Company, ConState New Jersey National Bank, Amper, Politzer & Mattia, an accounting and consulting firm, The Law Firm of Stark & Stark, and Creative Market-

ing Alliance, Inc., a marketing and communications firm.

"According to a number of sources, family businesses represent more than 90 percent of this country's firms and account for more than half of the nation's job creation," said David Niemeyer, director of the Rutgers Family Business Forum. "Despite this, more than 80 percent of first generation family firms do not survive to the second generation, while only 13 percent make it to the third generation. The Forum will help address this and other problems faced by family-owned businesses."

The Forum's first day-long workshop is scheduled for February 28,

1997, and features renowned family business expert Ivan Lansberg. The second workshop is scheduled for June 6, 1997 and will highlight strategic planning and the family business. A third day-long workshop is planned for the fall of 1997 and a half-day seminar is scheduled for April. Three additional half-day seminars will also occur later in 1997.

For more information on joining the Rutgers Family Business Forum, contact David Niemeyer or Lew Gantwerk at the Center for Applied Psychology, 41A Gordon Road, Livingston Campus, P.O. Box 5062, New Brunswick, NJ 08903-5062; (908) 445-7504; fax (908) 445-7970; e-mail gantwerk@rci.rutgers.edu.

NJ Supreme Court to hear business retention case

TRENTON—The New Jersey Supreme Court recently announced that it will hear the case on the constitutionality of the state's 1992 Business Retention Act (BRA). The BRA is a law that exempts business machinery and equipment from local property taxes. The high court has not yet set a date to hear the case.

A three-judge panel in the State Appellate Division in July upheld the

constitutionality of the BRA in *General Motors Corp. v. City of Linden* and reversed a tax court judge's ruling that the BRA violated the uniformity clause of the State Constitution. The case began 13 years ago when General Motors appealed the city's valuation of its plant in Linden.

New Jersey has excluded business machinery and equipment from local property taxes for 30 years. The

BRA, drafted in 1972, was intended to reaffirm and clarify that long-standing exemption in the face of a series of unfavorable tax court decisions.

Valley National Bank names SBA Loan Officer



WAYNE—Ralph L. McNeal, Sr. has joined Valley National Bank's Small Business Administration (SBA) lending unit as a business development officer. McNeal is based at VNB's Union branch, 2784 Morris Avenue, and is responsible for marketing the SBA loan program to New York City, Bergen, Essex and Hudson County businesses.

Prior to joining Valley National, McNeal spent several years in finance

administration, serving as president and chief operating officer for the Coalition Venture Group and North Street Capital Corporation and as chairman of Small Business Stock of America, Inc. McNeal also previously served as Essex County Administrator.

Valley National is one of New Jersey's largest preferred SBA lenders. As a result, the bank can give initial credit approval in three business days or less.

A graduate of Central State University in Wilberforce, Ohio, McNeal resides in Newark with his wife, Shirley. The couple have three grown children, Ralph Jr., Scott and Erika. With assets of \$4.6 billion, Valley National Bank, principal subsidiary of Valley National Bancorp., has 80 offices in 58 communities in Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Middlesex, Morris, Passaic, Somerset, Sussex, Union and Warren counties. Valley recently announced an agreement to acquire Midland Bank, which will add 13 branches in Bergen County to the Valley network.

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RELIGION

Religious Calendar

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 9
PERTH AMBOY—Alston & Perry Certified Public Accountants will host "Getting Your House in Order," a financial seminar for churches at the Donald Hilliard Community Affairs Complex from 9:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. For more info call 908-966-7475.

PLAINFIELD—The Employment Assistance Ministry of Shiloh Baptist Church presents "Whose Slave Are You...What Master Do You Serve?" at 9 a.m. For more info call 908-754-3353.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 16
EAST ORANGE—The East Orange United Council of PTAs/PTOs in association with Glory Productions & Co., Inc. presents "Is Jesus Here Yet?" an inspirational gospel musical at Clifford J. Scott High School at 7 p.m. For more info call 201-378-4940 or 201-673-0887.

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 24
HALEDON—The Catholic Campus Ministry of William Paterson College will hold a celebration to close its Thanksgiving Awareness Program at 3:30 p.m. For more info call 201-595-6184.

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30
IRVINGTON—Deliverance Jesus is Coming Church invites all to attend the consecration service of Bishop-elect James H. Everett, Jr. at 9 a.m. For more info call 201-375-5500.

All religious information should be sent in at least two weeks prior to event to be announced.

A&E's Mysteries of the Bible takes a look at 'Biblical Angels'

LOS ANGELES, CA—Gabriel, Michael, Raphael and Lucifer, they work quietly behind the scenes of the Bible's grandest moments. While their appearances continue to stir the imagination of those who regard angels as divine messengers from Heaven, wonder and debate still surround their functions.

But what is known from the scriptures about the purpose of angels? Are they clearly described or set forth as figures of mystery? Is it possible that they carry out God's will to this day, sent down to guide and protect

New Hope Baptist Church Celebrates Founder's Day and mortgage burning



NEWARK—As New Hope Baptist Church commemorated its 93rd Anniversary with a week-long celebration which ended with a Mortgage Burning ceremony, Pastor Charles C. Thomas announced the inception of a program designed to train tomorrow's entrepreneurs and the formation of a church-owned and operated Christian School. Over 2,500 people joined the celebration. Attendees included Mayor Sara B. Bost of Irvington, Councilman Ronald Rice and a representative for Congressman Donald Payne and President Bill Clinton. "Now that we have presented New Hope Baptist Church as a debt-free house unto the Lord, we are free to increase our community outreach efforts rather than focus our attention and resources on the infrastructure," Pastor Thomas stated. "This is the work of the church." The Founder's Day and Mortgage Burning ceremony included a Country & Western Bar-B-Que and several Pre-Founder's Day services such as Youth Night and an Old Fashioned Camp Meeting. From left, Deacon Fred Summers, Claude Cobbs, Chair Emeritus, Trustee Board; Walter Hall, Former Chair, Deacon Board; and Trustee Tina Watson are pictured with Pastor Charles E. Thomas.

us? Time and CNN reported that 69 percent of people believe in angels and that 45 percent believe they have their own guardian angel.

Contrary to popular belief, most angels don't have wings, why have they been portrayed in such manner? Could it have something to do with the earlier pagan cultures, or could they be a means of transportation between Heaven and Earth?

Some scientists believe we carry a collective memory of angels in our unconscious. Is Satan, the fallen angel, truly evil or is he only seeking out

dysfunctional humans and non-believers for God?

Angels are perhaps best known as the messengers of God. As Abraham was preparing to sacrifice his son for the Lord, an angel appeared to deliver God's message to spare his son's life.

These fascinating facts and unresolved questions about angels live on far beyond the pages of the Bible—as does the mystery of their purposes as presented in the World Premiere episode of *Mysteries Of The Bible: Biblical Angels*, airing Thursday, November 14 at 10 p.m./2 a.m. EST and 7 p.m./11 p.m. PST.

The Cathedral reaches out to the community

PERTH AMBOY—Cathedral Second Baptist Church of Perth Amboy invites you to worship with them and participate in their community events. The following is a list of events for the month of November.

Thursday, November 7
HIV/AIDS FAMILIES HAVING PRE-THANKSGIVING DINNER
The Family Life Enrichment Center, 272 Madison Ave. Families from throughout the state will be transported to the banquet hall for a great evening which includes a full course dinner, drama presentations, singing, thanksgiving and praise. Donations for children gift bags are welcomed. Call 908-826-5293.

Saturday, November 9

"GETTING YOUR HOUSE IN ORDER...A FINANCIAL SEMINAR FOR CHURCHES"
Held at the Donald Hilliard Jr. Community Affairs Complex, 205 Smith St., 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. Lunch at the elegant Cathedral Cafe. Attendance open to all pastors, finance committees and every individual who manages church funds. Call 908-826-5293 for conference brochure and additional information.

TALENT SHOW '96, 6 p.m., in the Family Life Enrichment Center. Singing, dancing, comedy, instrumental, poetry, sports, etc. Call 908-757-1464 for participation and more information.

November 10th through 13th
13th PASTORAL ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION at The Cathedral, 277 Madison Ave. Sunday 7:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. worship services. Guest

COMMENTARY

GCEDC brings economic clarity to Paterson

by Veronica Taylor

PATERSON—On Saturday, November 2, the Gilmore Community Economic Development Corporation (GCEDC) hosted a Ground Breaking Ceremony at the corner of Haledon Avenue and North 48th Street.

The site will house a restaurant and banquet facility that will contribute 15 to 20 job opportunities to the Paterson economy. According to the organization's officials, this church-based economic development project is proof that religious institutions have the power to save the communities.



Rev. Floyd Flake (l) and Cathedral's Bishop Donald Hilliard, Jr.

speaker will be Rev. Don Meares, Senior Pastor of Evangel Church, Upper Marlboro, MD; Monday and Tuesday nights at 6:30 p.m.; Rev. Raphael Green, Senior Pastor of Metro Christian Worship Center, St. Louis, Missouri; and Wednesday night at 6:30 p.m., the Rev. Congressman Floyd Flake, Senior Pastor of Allen AME Church and Congressman of the 6th Congressional District of Jamaica Queens, New York.

In 1983, Rev. Donald Hilliard, Jr., began pastoring at the Second Baptist Church in Perth Amboy, New Jersey, where membership was 35. Today the church has a membership of 4,000. "Celebrating 13 years of Liberating Leadership" is the theme for the festival. Call 908-826-5293 for more information.

Saturday, November 23
BRIELLE, N.J.—FISHING TRIP, sponsored by The Fruit of Jesus Ministry. Departure is out of Brielle at 6 a.m. Bring the family for an enjoyable

day of fun and relaxation. Call 908-826-1729 for cost and more information.

Sunday, November 24
THANKSGIVING SPECIAL SUNDAY WORSHIP SERVICE. Sunday worship services at 7:30 a.m. and 11 a.m. to have special emphasis on reasons for being thankful. Distribution of Thanksgiving groceries and turkeys will be given out during the week. Call 908-826-5293 for more information.

Wednesday, November 27
THANKSGIVING EVE WORSHIP SERVICES at 6 a.m. Early Morning Prayer and Thanksgiving, noon Hour of Power Thanksgiving Worship Service and 6:30 p.m. Evening Festive Worship Service. Call 908-826-5293.

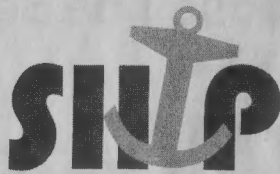
Every Sunday
SUNDAY SCHOOL AND CHRISTIAN EDUCATION HOUR, 9:45 a.m. until 10:45 a.m. in the Hilliard Complex, 205 Smith Street. Call 908-826-5293.

Often times they are not aware of the resources available for them to participate in certain economic development projects that can rebuild these distressed communities.

The faith-based institutions have the major components to do so, human resources and financial resources. They have a history of stability and endurance. It is because of these qualities that people trust them. Today, the government is calling for a radical change and asking well established institutions such as, Gilmore Memorial Tabernacle, to again assist in helping to revitalize and re-

new the affected cities and communities. The Gilmore Community Economic Development Corporation is a product of the Tabernacle whose banner was designed to fill a tremendous void left from years of reduced federal government-funded social assistance programs that have eroded over the last two decades.

In August, the Tabernacle celebrated a half-century of existence. It is unique because of the continuity of its spiritual leadership led first by the late Bishop Clarence Gilmore and for the last 23 years by his wife, Rev. Dr. Alene Gilmore.



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Saturday, November 9, 1996
8:30 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.
Columbus Hospital
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Columbus Health Center
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Pickett

Continued from page B-3

public fight."

And, Pickett sees the public education question as one that is still unsettled for the state, even after over two decades of legal battles on behalf of equity for urban and poorer district students.

"New Jersey hasn't quite understood the importance of providing equal opportunity and equal education for the children, and that (legal) battle has been raging for 20 years," Pickett said.

Established as a well-respected lawyer in the state, handling a number of high profile cases, Pickett was appointed by New Jersey Governor Brendan Byrne in 1981 as an administrative law judge, and subsequently reappointed by Governor Tom Kean.

After resigning from the bench in 1986, Pickett returned to private practice. "I decided there were more things I needed to do," he explained. "And, I needed to be more active in speaking out on issues, and contributing to the public discourse on certain kinds of issues."

Pickett was originally recruited for one show on the New York-based KISS-FM radio station, to offer legal commentary on the much discussed O.J. Simpson case. Pickett was so popular that he was recruited permanently to offer commentary.

Suspicion

Continued from page B-3

have also been implicated in cocaine and heroin trafficking. Opium production in Guatemala totals an estimated \$1.5 billion annually and could supply about 60 percent of the U.S. market.

During the past half century the policy of the CIA and successive administrations toward drugs has been muddled with conflict, contradiction, and possible complicity. It is hardly a surprise that many blacks mistrust the government to conduct an honest and thorough investigation of suspected CIA-Contra-drug links. Why the demand should be for: The appointment of an independent commission to investigate; full prosecution of any

government official or private citizen found complicit in drug sales; a major funding increase for health care, drug education, rehabilitation, and prevention programs; Congress and Clinton to approve the U.S. Sentencing Commission's recommendations to end racial bias in the federal mandatory drug sentencing laws; legislation requiring iron-clad regulation of covert actions and operations by the CIA and other government agencies, and mandatory cut-off of aid to nations identified as major drug producers and traffickers.

These measures can't restore or repair the thousands of lives de-

stroyed, the families shattered, and the societal damage done by the drug scourge. And it can't wipe away the nearly half century of indifference, deliberate ignorance and indirect complicity of the CIA toward the drug trade. But this can be a start toward insuring that this dirty history is not repeated again. Responses may be e-mailed to Earl Ofari Hutchinson: ethutch344@aol.com.

With a solo law practice, working as a community advocate, and commenting on KISS, Bob Pickett is kept turning. However, even with his busy schedule, family remains a key priority. A resident of Northern Jersey, he and wife Marsha, a graphic artist, have three children; Samantha (20 years old), Walter (18), and Sara (13).

Dr. Earl Ofari Hutchinson is the author of "The Assassination of the Black Male Image" and "Beyond O.J.: Race, Sex, and Class Lessons for America."

These measures can't restore or repair the thousands of lives de-

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SPORTS

Yankees and fans celebrate magical season

by Eric Jackson

NEW YORK—After a long, hard fight to win the World Series, the Atlanta Braves, the New York Yankees brought home the World Series trophy and invited fans and the city to join in the celebration. As floats carrying the baseball champs, made their way from Battery Park to City Hall, the city was awash from the first ticker tape parade in years.

As more than three million Yankees fans lined the parade route, tons of shredded paper poured down from the high-rise buildings like the winter storms earlier this year. Yet, this onslaught of confetti was looked upon as a glorious addition to the excitement of the day.

The parade and the feelings of all in attendance was just a culmination of the extraordinary baseball season and post-season for the Yankees. After an up and down early season, the Yankees' ultimate win of the American League East Championship on July 29, was just a start of what would be an amazing post season.

Despite a few shaky moments during the playoffs with the Rangers and Orioles, the Yankees magic continued to work for them. Or so it seemed.

After a torrential northeaster that delayed game one of the World Series, many thought that the Yankees magic was blown away in the storm as they lost their first two games at home. But as they moved to Atlanta, maybe the close proximity to Disney World and its magic provided the Yankees with the much needed and missing magic.

Winning games three, four and five in Atlanta, highlighted by them overcoming a 6-0 Braves lead during game four, the Yankees returned to New York to finish things off. With a 3-2 win at the top of the ninth, the Yankees victory pile-on took center

stage as fans roared in Yankee Stadium and in front of their televisions.

The parade and the presentation of keys to the city by Mayor Rudy Giuliani, while a wonderful conclusion to such a

climatic season were just a small part of all that was wonderful and magical. That is left up to each member of the Yankee team, its manager Joe Torre, and the love and belief of their fans.

Union County Sheriff's softball team has winning season

ELIZABETH—The Union County Sheriff's softball team just completed an "undefeated season" 16-0-1, by defeating Elizabeth Police I in two straight championship games. The Championship, played under the lights in Warranaco Park on Tuesday, October 14, pitted the two best teams in the Union County Police Softball League against each other.

The Sheriff's team won the first and second games by scores of 17 to 9 and 6 to 4. The second game was close with Elizabeth Police staging a late inning rally that was held in check by Ed Hanewald and Big Jim (Elvis) Wiewiorski.

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inning rally that was held in check by Ed Hanewald and Big Jim (Elvis) Wiewiorski.

Lorraine Powers kept score all

year, and gave the team a new draft pick for the year 2012. Lorraine and Mike (second base) had a baby boy, Michael Vincent, just in time for the playoffs.

Coaching duties were shared by Bill Sharkey Sr. and John Diorio. The team owes special thanks to its sponsor, Dr. Danny Nozza of Advanced Chiropractic in Elizabeth.

Sheriff Froelich commented that the success and professionalism of the team goes beyond their accomplishments on the softball field. "These young men are outstanding officers who give 100 percent to every effort—law enforcement, softball, or life's personal challenges. I am proud of them all."

Youth basketball, wrestling offered in Plainfield

PLAINFIELD—The Plainfield Division of Recreation will be holding registration for their youth wrestling and youth basketball programs.

The Youth Basketball Program is open for girls and boys between the ages of 7 and 13. Registration will be held on November 9 at Hubbard Middle School and November 16 at Masson Middle School. All times will be 10 a.m.

to noon. Registration fee is \$10 per child. Parent or guardian must accompany child with copy of the child's birth certificate. Orientation will be held on December 3, 7 p.m., at Plainfield High School Auditorium.

The Youth Wrestling Program is open for youths between the ages of 4 to 14. Registration will be held on November 6 and 8, 10 a.m. to 10 p.m. at the

Plainfield Old High School Wrestling Room. Registration fee is \$10 per child. First practice will be held on November 11 and orientation will be held on November 13.

For further information regarding the Plainfield Fall/Winter programs, please contact the Plainfield Division of Recreation Office at 908-753-3097.

Educators fired

Continued from page A-1

Henderson, one of two chief investigators appointed by State District Superintendent Beverly L. Hall.

"We're going to analyze all contracts, bidding and reports and we'll report any evidence of wrongdoing to the Superintendent's office."

Henderson said that the office is currently scrutinizing records that disclose a systematic abuse of monies in terms of travel and meal expenditures and internal thefts. "That's what's so outrageous. The children may have been deprived of educational funds. Apparently this has occurred well before the state took over."

During the offices' investigatory tenure, Henderson, whose law enforcement and criminal background

dates back three decades, will work closely with Manuel Quinones, a specialist in electronic surveillance and fraud investigations.

Funded by the district's education budget, the office will be responsible for providing training to staff members to identify any violations of district policies and procedures. They will also establish ethical standards to prevent the kinds of misconduct that some suggests permeates the district.

"Uncovering abuse and punishing it will set a high standard for ethical behavior throughout the Newark Public School system," said Dr. Hall. A special hotline is in place for citizens who want to anonymously report any alleged misconduct. Hotline number is 201-733-8227.

Urban cities

Continued from page A-1

the city of more than 110,000, can prosper—not as the manufacturing center it used to be, but as a hub for big retailers.

With the six-year-old IKEA, that serves over 2 million customers annually, the newly-built Incredible Universe and Toys R Us stores and a \$320 million metroMall of 250 outlets planned for next year, Elizabeth is on its way to reaching its goal. In the last year, the city's Urban Enterprise Zone grew to 766—up from December 1994, with 430 businesses.

While Plainfield also hopes to revitalize its city's economic stability, it has failed to spark downtown redevelopment since "urban renewal" came to town in 1965 and the four-acre Park Madison block in the heart of the city was leveled to make way for new stores—stores that never came.

Yet, despite the economic obstacles facing the city, other areas have shown improvement, including the new Plainfield Health Center, the rebuilding of the Netherwood Train Station and the many new businesses that have built up in the South Avenue area.

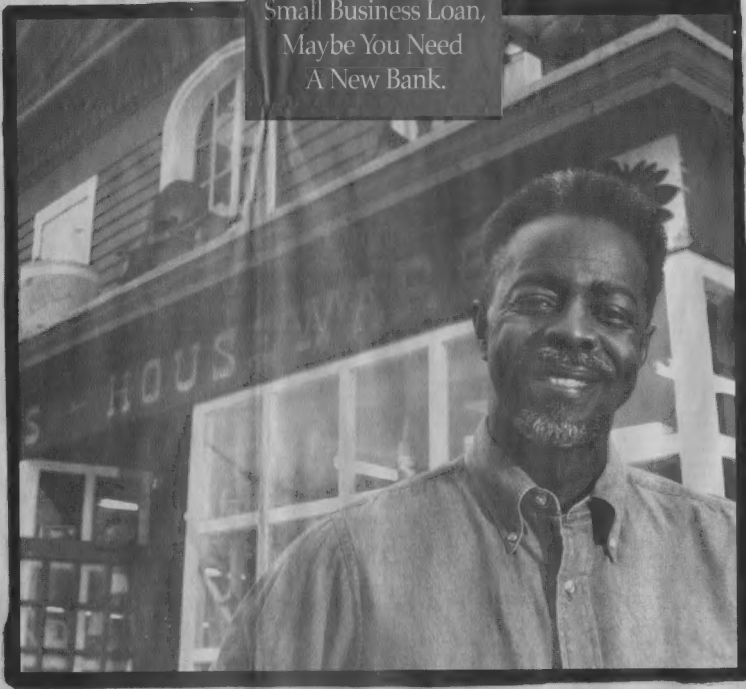
Asbury Park is also working to provide its residents and visitors with new cultural and economic growth. Recently a coalition of community members and city officials sponsored the Asbury Park Business Opportunities Tour & Fair, where artists and entrepreneurs were invited to see what is available in the city's main business district. Unfortunately though, as efforts continue to revitalize the once-thriving oceanfront resort, plans are presently tied up in court.

Jazz festival

Continued from page B-2

Bey in concert Saturday at the Travelodge at 3 p.m. Sunday brings George Benson and the All-star Organ Jam Spectacular. Benson will be presented with the 1996 Newark Jazz Festival's "All That Jazz" Award. This annual award recognizes the outstanding accomplishments of jazz musicians and singers who have contributed to the jazz legacy of Newark. Tickets are \$35 dollars and can be obtained at the Travelodge by calling 201-622-1000.

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